

UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE 4000 DEFENSE PENTAGON

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301-4000

SEP 2 5 2003

The Honorable Duncan Hunter Chairman Committee on Armed Services U.S. House of Representatives Washington, DC 20515

Dear Mr. Chairman:

This letter provides an interim reply to the House Report 107-436, which directed the Department of Defense to assess the ability of the Military Services to send updates to the Defense Enrollment & Eligibility Reporting System (DEERS). A report on the findings and recommendations of the study was to be provided to the Authorization Committees of both Houses by September 30, 2003.

The Defense Manpower Data Center has completed the assessment and is in the final process of staffing the report. Upon receipt of the report, I will complete the study and forward the results to you. I anticipate forwarding the final report by the end of November.

A similar letter has been sent to the Chairman, Senate Committee on Armed Services.

David S. C. Chu

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cc:

The Honorable Ike Skelton Ranking Member

